Mānoa International Education Committee Meeting
November 26, 2013
2:00 p.m.
Hawai‘i Hall 309

Attendees: Andy Sutton (Chair), Tom Brislin, Junwook Chi, Mona Chock, Song Choi, Hung Dang, Sandy Davis, Linda Duckworth, Judy Ensing, David Ericson, Satoru Izutsu, Darrell Kicker, Aaron Miller, Sara Otis, Seungoh Paek, Kristine Qureshi, Cindy Samaroo, Carolyn Stephenson, Jan Taniguchi, Joel Weaver, Lois Kajiwara

Guest : Vanessa Works (for Magi Sarvimaeki)

Andy Sutton called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

Agenda Item #1: International Student Recruitment – Reports on Individual Department/Unit efforts

Andy Sutton said that he attended a meeting with several representatives of the Hawai‘i Higher Education Study Abroad Support Center of Japan (HEC). The topic of agents was discussed:

- HEC wanted to be the exclusive agent for Japan.
- HEC has a local office at KCC.
- Judy Ensing and Joel Weaver said that they are paying commission to HEC.

SAT issues: Why do we require the SAT for international students?

- Some countries do not have test centers for students to take the SAT.
- It tests English language skills and knowledge on U.S. culture.
- Jan Taniguchi said that Hung Dang is addressing these issues. Schools are looking for articulation agreements.
- Community colleges use placement exams. Can UH Mānoa do that also instead of the SAT?
- If we want to get international students quickly, the solution is getting them from the community colleges. If we had more articulation agreements, we can get both domestic and international students.

How should MIEC address the SAT barrier? Without lowering standards, we need to propose an alternative to the SAT.

- Need manpower to be able to access all the applications.
- Hung Dang said that in looking at the SAT barrier for international students, they found that many universities on the West coast do not require the SAT. Instead, TOEFL and high school coursework are the requirements.
- This issue is an action item that Hung Dang is working on. He is figuring out which path is the best way to pursue this.
  - Need to research other university policies.
- Andy Sutton made a motion to explore the possibilities of waiving the SAT for international students. Song Choi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the members.
Agenda Item #4: Plan for creating the International Recruitment Team – Hung Dang
Hung Dang distributed a handout called “Strengthen & Better Coordinate Recruitment” to the members.

- Hung Dang mentioned that his staff of five people organized over 300 events.
- He is looking at available resources to see how to achieve the recruiting targets.
- International goals are still in the planning stages.
- Admissions will take the lead in recruiting international students, but MIEC can be a partner in helping with recruiting.
- UH Mānoa’s yield rate is above the national rate of 38%. Traditionally, UH Mānoa’s yield rate used to be 45-46%.

One suggestion to get more people exposed to our campus is to give free tickets to athletic events or be the venue for special events.

Agenda Item #2: Strategies for improving the presence, look, and usability of the UH Mānoa website
Priorities:

- Translation of website
- Newer technology
- Webmaster

Department news:
Linda Duckworth reported that the numbers are still down. It has been declining since 2007, but now, it is declining less steeply and is starting to level off. She distributed a handout on international student data for Fall 2013, which can also be found at the link below:

http://www.hawaii.edu/issmanoa/media/bookmarks/Factsheet-2013%20Fall.pdf

The meeting ended at 3:30 p.m.